

CHAPTER NO. 790

SENATE BILL NO. 3089

**By Harper, Atchley, Blackburn, Burchett, Burks, Carter, Clabough, Cohen, Cooper, Crowe, Crutchfield, Davis, Dixon, Elsea, Ford, Fowler, Graves, Haun, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Jackson, Kurita, Kyle, McNally, Miller, Norris, Person, Ramsey, Rochelle, Trail, Williams,
Mr. Speaker Wilder**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 3161

By Pruitt, Langster

AN ACT To name a segment of U.S. Highway 31A (State Route 6 or Ellington Parkway) in Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County in honor of Police Officer Candace Ripp.

WHEREAS, From time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those exemplary public servants who, during their lifetimes, contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, No Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Candace Renee Ripp, an officer with the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Officer Ripp was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens by ensuring their safety; and

WHEREAS, This valiant law enforcement officer was killed in the line of duty, while working a one-car accident, on December 8, 2001; she was the first female officer in Nashville history to have lost her life while serving the city; and

WHEREAS, A distinguished graduate of the Nashville Police Academy, Officer Candace Ripp had tirelessly and skillfully served the citizens of Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County for nearly 10 years; and

WHEREAS, Officer Candace Renee Ripp, throughout the course of her career and especially in her last assignment to the East Patrol Sector, earned the admiration of her peers and the people she protected and served for her acumen and her dedication to duty; and

WHEREAS, A highly respected and accomplished officer, Officer Ripp had been honored with the Exemplary Service Award and the Department Commendation Award; on December 10, 2001, she was posthumously awarded the Metropolitan Police Department's highest honor, the Medal of Valor; and

WHEREAS, Officer Candace Renee Ripp leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and valor in her career as a law enforcement officer, compassion and loyalty in her private life, and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Possessing a great love for her community and work, Officer Ripp carried out her duties with the greatest passion and devotion; and

WHEREAS, This legislative body finds it most appropriate to honor the life and accomplishments of this exceptional public servant and human being by means of a permanent memorial; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, that segment of U.S. Highway 31A (State Route 6 or Ellington Parkway) from its intersection with Trinity Lane to its southern terminus in Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County is hereby designated as the "Candace Ripp Memorial Parkway" as a lasting tribute to this dedicated public servant who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving and protecting her fellow citizens.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such segment of U.S. Highway 31A (State Route 6 or Ellington Parkway) as the "Candace Ripp Memorial Parkway".

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the Federal Highway Administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 54, Chapter 1, Part 1, is amended by adding the following new section:

54-1-132. The department shall fund from resources in the highway fund the cost of signage and marking of an interstate, U.S. highway or state highway designated as a memorial highway or memorial bridge for any of the following individuals killed in the line of duty:

(1) A member of the military, including the reserves and national guard;
or

(2) Any state or local public safety official, including but not limited to members of the highway patrol, county law enforcement officials, local police officers, firefighters, whether paid or volunteer, and emergency medical personnel.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 22, 2002



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 29th day of May 2002



DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR